

## *SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS*

[Pastor Gene Henderson with edits by Pastor Pier]

We've all suffered the grief of loss and wondered, "**Now what?**" Our wonder wasn't whether the world would go on – even though many times we wished it wouldn't. Our wonder wasn't whether we would go on – even though we really wondered if we could. Sometimes the loss was expected. That's tough. Sometimes the loss came unexpectedly, a shot out of the blue. That shakes us in ways we can't really explain. **Loss leaves us broken.**

To think we're too strong for life to break us... that sets us up for mental and psychological war. To think we've got God, what else do we need? That sets us up for spiritual breakdown, for war with Heaven. For questions God has already answered; and we do not like those answers.

So, most of us have grappled with our grief to find peace. We've had to redefine "**peace**" because it doesn't mean what it meant before our loss. **We've found strength we didn't know we had, or we didn't know God could give.** We've found smiles and laughter again, and that was troubling. How can I laugh when what I love is gone, when I can never again hold who I loved? These gifts – peace, strength, laughter – and many others came slowly, sometimes shockingly. **They represent healing.**

As much as we wish not to have learned these lessons, we stand on them now. They color our world and they describe hope to us. They've opened our eyes and our hearts to the grace and goodness of God in ways we did not know before. In time they describe maturity and wisdom. Not because we had none before, but because an idea is no match for reality. This is what David experienced when he was writing Psalm 34:17-19 (New Living Translation):

**The LORD hears His people when they call to Him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed. The righteous person faces many troubles, but the LORD comes to the rescue each time.**

# Welcome!

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025



*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."*

### **SERVICES**

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services

## SERMON NOTES

### OUR GREATEST POWER – 1<sup>ST</sup> PART

TEXT: Psalm 89:15

I. A POWERFUL \_\_\_\_\_ – Leviticus 25

A. The observance begins with the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ that the land \_\_\_\_\_ from cultivation every seventh year. Leviticus 25:3-4

That meant Israel would have to live for that period \_\_\_\_\_ any visible means of \_\_\_\_\_. Leviticus 25:20-22

B. God \_\_\_\_\_ seven \_\_\_\_\_ cycles of Sabbaths for the land. Leviticus 25:8

II. A SOUNDING OF \_\_\_\_\_

The word "*jubilee*" itself means "*the \_\_\_\_\_ of trumpets*". Leviticus 25:9

It heralded an incredible \_\_\_\_\_ of liberty and deliverance – by the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_! Leviticus 25:10

The sound of the trumpets \_\_\_\_\_ all debts and \_\_\_\_\_ all goods to the original owners, and \_\_\_\_\_ every servant from every form of \_\_\_\_\_ and bondage!

Every person who'd lost property was given back \_\_\_\_\_!

It was the \_\_\_\_\_ of the land – God's decree and \_\_\_\_\_!

Nothing in my past can be held \_\_\_\_\_ me because I've been unshackled, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Yet the person in bondage had to \_\_\_\_\_ in order to \_\_\_\_\_ possession of his freedom or his lost property.

Until he stepped out and \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_, he couldn't enjoy any of it.

God calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ the freedom, peace and glory He has provided for us through the \_\_\_\_\_ of sins, but we are to step out and \_\_\_\_\_ it! 1 John 4:4, 5:4

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Wednesday Bible Study** – we continue our study of the Rapture of the church.

**Prayer** – every Sunday evening from 6 to 7. We join together to pray in an informal way, come as you are and pray as you wish. God honors the church that prays together.

**Free Music CDs & DVDs** – in the foyer, on the pulpit there are numerous CDs and DVDs which are free. Please take a look and see what you might want.

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